

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An electronic mail forwarding system, comprising:

a forwarding server, within a data communication network, to host forwarding searches and to perform forwarding actions; and

a database, in communication with the forwarding server within the data communication network, the forwarding server to enter, update, and maintain source and destination electronic mail addresses in the database for forwarding; wherein the electronic mail forwarding system is adapted to:

receive a registration for an electronic mail account of a user to forward emails addressed to the user's old electronic mail address to a new electronic mail address;

send a confirmation electronic mail with a required password to the user;

receive an electronic mail message from a sender to a recipient that specifies the user's recipient's old electronic mail address as a ~~recipient~~;

search for the recipient's new electronic mail address ~~for the user~~ for forwarding;

and

forward the electronic mail message to the new electronic mail address, if the new electronic mail address is found.

2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the data communication network includes at least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the user's old electronic mail address is disabled after the registration.

4. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein if the electronic mail message from the sender is successfully forwarded, the server ~~forwards~~ to transfer an electronic mail address of the sender to the recipient ~~user~~.

5. (currently amended) The system of claim 4, wherein if the electronic mail message from the sender is successfully forwarded, the ~~user~~ recipient ~~to~~ responds to one of the sender directly or to the sender indirectly through the server.

6. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~user's~~ recipient's new electronic mail address is made unavailable to the sender.

7. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic mail forwarding system is further adapted to forward the electronic mail message from the sender to the ~~user's~~ recipient's old electronic mail address, if the recipient's new electronic mail address is not found.

8. (currently amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message indicating that the sender's electronic mail message is undeliverable if the ~~user's~~ recipient's old electronic mail address is no longer reachable.

9. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message from the electronic mail forwarding system informing the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was successfully forwarded.

10. (currently amended) An electronic mail forwarding system for disabled accounts comprising a computer readable medium and a computer readable program code stored on the computer readable medium having instructions to:

receive a registration for an electronic mail account of a user to forward emails addressed to the user's old electronic mail address to a new electronic mail address;

send a confirmation electronic mail with a required password to the user;

receive an electronic mail message from a sender to a recipient that indicates the ~~user's~~ recipient's old electronic mail address ~~as a recipient~~;

search a database for the recipient's new electronic mail address ~~of the user~~ for forwarding;

if the recipient's new electronic mail address is found,

forward the electronic mail message to the recipient's new electronic mail address; and

make available an electronic mail address of the sender to the recipient ~~user~~;

if the recipient's new electronic mail address is not found,

dispatch the electronic mail message to the ~~user's~~ recipient's old electronic mail address; and

send an electronic mail message to the sender indicating that the sender's electronic mail message to the ~~user~~ recipient is undeliverable.

11. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the instructions are provided to a forwarding server of the electronic mail forwarding system to host forwarding searches and to execute forwarding actions.

12. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the instructions are provided to enable a database to receive, update, and maintain old and new electronic mail addresses of users for forwarding.

13. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the user's old electronic mail address is disabled after the registration.

14. (currently amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the ~~user~~ recipient has an option of responding directly to the sender's electronic mail address.

15. (currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the ~~user~~ recipient has an option of responding indirectly to the sender through the forwarding server.

16. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein the sender is informed that the electronic mail message of the sender has been delivered to the new electronic mail address of the recipient user.

17. (currently amended) A method of forwarding electronic mails for a disabled account over a data communication network, comprising:

receiving a registration for an electronic mail account of a user to forward emails addressed to the user's old electronic mail address to a new electronic mail address;

receiving an electronic mail message from a sender to a recipient that specifies the ~~user's~~ recipient's old electronic mail address as a ~~recipient~~;

searching for the new electronic mail address of the ~~user~~ recipient for forwarding;

if the new electronic mail address is found,

forwarding the electronic mail message to the new electronic mail address;

and

providing an electronic mail address of the sender to the recipient user;

if the new electronic mail address is not found,

forwarding the electronic mail message to the recipient's ~~user's~~ old electronic mail address; and

sending an electronic mail message to the sender indicating that the sender's electronic mail message to the recipient ~~user~~ is undeliverable.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the data communication network includes at least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein a forwarding server, having circuitry to send and receive data to and from a database, performs forwarding searches and provides forwarding actions.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the forwarding server enters, updates, and maintains electronic mail addresses in the database for forwarding.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein a confirmation electronic mail with a password is sent to the user after user registration.

22. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the user's electronic mail account is disabled after user registration.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the recipient ~~user~~ responds to one of the sender directly or to the sender indirectly through the forwarding server.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the recipient's ~~user's~~ new electronic mail address may be made unavailable to the sender.

25. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message from the user that informs the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was forwarded.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message from the forwarding server that informs the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was forwarded to the recipient user.

27. (new) The method of claim 17, further comprising periodically performing data clean-up of the database to detect forwarding cycles of A to B and B to A and remove them.

28. (new) The method of claim 17, further comprising periodically performing data clean-up of the database to detect chaining and simplify the chain.